Li-Ion Battery Technology Assessment for Future NASA Planetary Missions

S. Surampudi, B. V. Ratnakumar, M. C. Smart and S. Distefano Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, California

Space Power Workshop, Los Angles, CA., April. 12, 2000





Outline

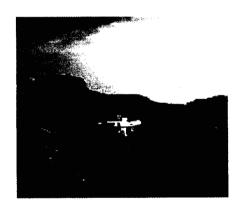
- Potential NASA Applications
- Planetary Mission Battery Requirements
- Interagency Li-Ion Battery Program
- Technology Assessment
- Summary and Conclusions





Potential NASA Applications

Planetary Landers



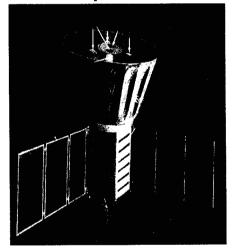
Europa Orbitter



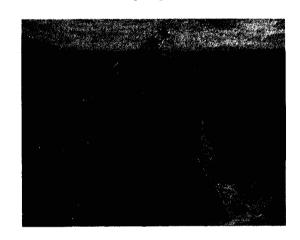
GEO Spacecraft

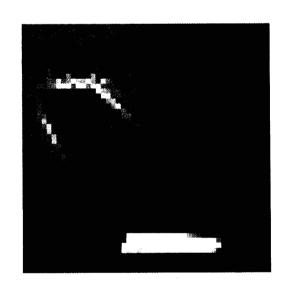


LEO Spacecraft



Astronaut Equipment

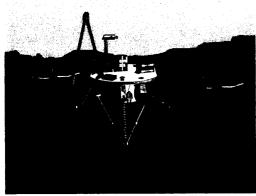






Mars 2003 Lander





Launch Date: Jan 2003
Flight Time: Nine Months
Mission Objectives

- Platform for instruments and technology experiments designed to provide key insights to decisions regarding human missions to Mars.
- In-situ demonstration test of rocket propellant production.
- Martian soil properties and surface radiation environment

Battery Requirements

• Voltage: 24-32

• Capacity: 68 Ah

• Operating Temp.:-20-40 C

• Cycle Life: 300

• Calendar Life: Three years

• Sp. Energy:> 100 Wh/kg

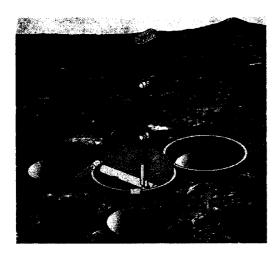
Energy Density: >240 Wh/l

- Battery Operation after
 Two years Active storage.
- Low Temperature Performance









Launch Date: Jan 2003
Flight Time: Nine Months

Mission Objectives

Lander robustness

Battery Requirements

• Voltage: 24-32

• Capacity: 6-8 Ah

• Cycle Life: 20-30 K, at 20-30% DoD

• Calendar Life: Five years

Sp. Energy:> 100 Wh/kg

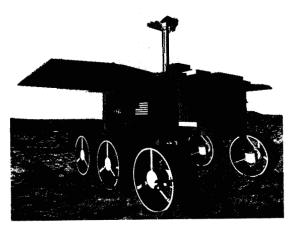
• Energy Density: >240 Wh

- Battery Operation after Two years Active storage
- Low Temperature Performance



Mars 2005 Lander/Rover





Launch Date: April 2005
Flight Time: Nine Months
Mission Objectives

- Platform for instruments and technology experiments designed to provide key insights to decisions regarding human missions to Mars.
- In-situ demonstration test of rocket propellant production.
- Martian soil properties and surface radiation environment

Battery Requirements

• Voltage: 24-32

• Capacity: 140 Ah

Operating Temp.:-20-40 C

• Cycle Life: > 300

Calendar Life: Three years

• Sp. Energy:> 100 Wh/kg

Energy Density: >240 Wh/l

- Battery Operation after Two years Active storage
- Low Temperature Performance



Mars Microsats





Launch Date: Jan 2003
Flight Time: Nine Months

Mission Objectives

- Developing a communications capability to provide a substantial increase in data rates and connectivity from Mars to Earth;
- Developing an in situ navigation capability to enable more precise targeting and location information on approach and at Mars.

Battery Requirements

• Voltage: 24-32

• Capacity: 6-8 Ah

Cycle Life: 20-30 K, at 20-30% DoD

• Calendar Life: Five years

Sp. Energy:> 100 Wh/kg

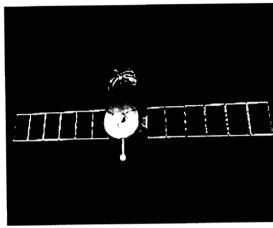
Energy Density: >240 Wh/l

- Long Cycle Life
- Low Temperature Performance



Mars Sats





Launch Date: Jan 2003 Flight Time: Nine Months

Mission Objectives

- Developing a communications capability to provide a substantial increase in data rates and connectivity from Mars to Earth.
- Developing an in situ navigation capability to enable more precise targeting and location information on approach and at Mars.

Battery Requirements

Voltage: 24-32

Capacity: 20 -35 Ah

Cycle Life: 20-30 K, at 20-30% DoD

• Calendar Life: 7-9 years

Sp. Energy:> 100 Wh/kg

• Energy Density: >240 Wh/l

- Long Cycle Life
- Low Temperature Performance



Europa Orbiter





Launch Date: January 2006
Flight Time: 6-8 Years
Mission Objectives

- Determine the presence or absence of a subsurface ocean
- Characterize the three-dimensional distribution of any subsurface liquid water and its overlying ice layers
- Understand the formation of surface features, including sites of recent or current activity, and identify candidate landing sites for future lander missions.

Battery Requirements

Voltage: 24-32

• Capacity: 6-8 Ah

• Cycle Life: < 400

Calendar Life: 6-8 Years

Sp. Energy:> 100 Wh/kg

• Energy Density: >240 Wh/l

- Long Calendar Life
- Radiation Tolerance



Solar Probe





Launch Date: 2007

Flight Time: 3.8 - 1st Perihelion; 4.5 - 2nd Perihelion

Mission Objectives

- Determine the acceleration processes and find the source regions of the fast and slow solar wind at maximum and minimum solar activity.
- Locate the source and trace the flow of energy that heats the corona;
- Construct the 3-d density configuration from pole to pole, and determine the subsurface flow pattern, the structure of the polar magnetic field and its relationship with the overlying corona.

Battery Requirements

Voltage: 24-32

• Capacity: 6-8 Ah

• Cycle Life: < 400

• Calendar Life: 5-7 Years

Sp. Energy:> 100 Wh/kg

• Energy Density: >240 Wh/l

Technology Challenges

Long Calendar Life



Interagency Li-Ion Battery Program



Objectives

- Develop aerospace quality, high energy density and long life lithium-ion cells and batteries
- Establish U.S. production sources
- Demonstrate technology readiness
 - Rovers and Landers by 2000
 - Aviation / UAV's by 2001
 - DOD terrestrial applications by 2001
 - GEO missions by 2002
 - LEO missions by 2004





Interagency Li-Ion Battery Program Performance Targets

	LANDERS	ROVERS	GEO	LEO/PLA> ORBITER	AIRCRAFT	UAV
			ORBITER			
CAPACITY, Ah	30	8	10, 20, 35	10, 20, 35	5-20	100-200
VOLATAGE (v)	28	28	28-100	28	28-270	28-100
DISCH. RATE	C/5-C	C/5-C/2	C/2	C/2-C	С	C/5-C
CYCLE LIFE	>500	>500	>2000	>30,000	>1000	>1000
@DOD (%)	>60%	>60%	>75%	>30%	>50%	>50%
OPERATING TEMP, OC	-40 to 40	-40 to 40	-5 to 30	-5 to 30	-40 to 65	-40 to 65
Calendar Life	3	3	>10	>5	>5	>5
SP. ENERGY (Wh/Kg)*	> 100	> 100	> 100	> 100	> 100	100
ENRGY DENSITY (Wh/l)*	120-160	120-160	120-160	120-160	120-160	120-160

Based on 100%DOD at BOL





Li-Ion Battery Technology Assessment





Li-Ion Battery Technology Assessment

Objectives

- Assess viability of using lithium-ion technology for future NASA applications.
- Demonstrate technology readiness for near term planetary missions.
 - Mars Landers
 - Mars Rovers
 - Mars Micro Sats
 - Outer Planetary Missions





Li-Ion Battery Technology Assessment Test Plan Outline

•Electrical Performance Characterization

Range of charge and discharge rates (C/2, C/3.3, C/5 and C/10) Range of temperatures (-30, -20, 0, 23, 40°C) Pulse capability (40 and 60A) Impedance measurements

•Cycle Life Performance

Room temperature cycle life (23° +/- 2°C) Low temperature cycle life (-20°C) High temperature cycling (40°C) Variable temperature cycling

Storage Characteristics

- * 2 Month storage test (0 and 40°C, 50 and 100% SOC)
- * Accelerated storage test: at different SOC (50, 70,100% SOC), temperatures (25, 40, 55°C), and storage conditions.

Mission Simulation Testing



Li-Ion Battery Technology Assessment Test Cells













• Yardney

- Baseline 5 Ah Cells
- First generation 20 Ah Cells for Mars Lander
- Second generation 20/25 Ah cells for Mars Lander
- First generation 8Ah Cells for Rover
- MSP 01 25/35 Cells

• BlueStar

- Baseline 20 Ah Cells
- First Generation 25 Ah Cells for Mars Lander
- Second generation 25/35 Ah Cells for Mars Lander
- First Generation Rover Cells (6-8 Ah)

• Eagle Picher

- Baseline 15/20 Ah cells
- First Generation 50 Ah Cells-Aircraft

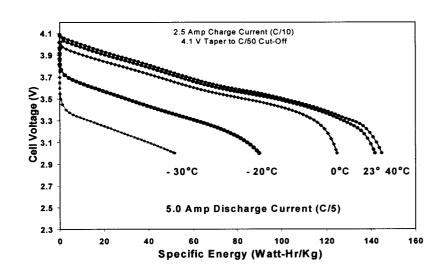
• SAFT

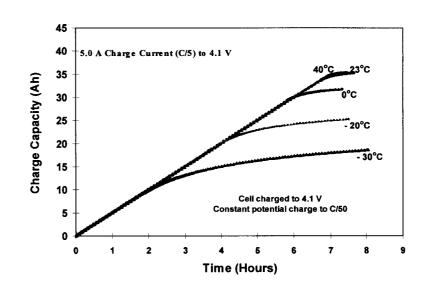
- Baseline D cells
- First Generation Rover Cells (8-9 Ah)





Li-Ion Battery Technology Assessment Electrical Characterization Studies



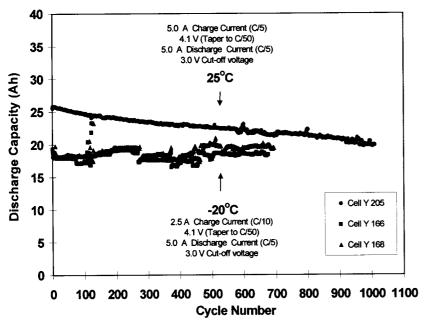


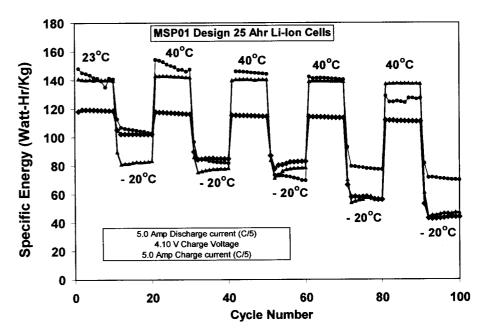
- Cells were found to deliver > 140 Wh/kg at RT
- Cells were found to deliver about 100 Wh/kg at -20C
- Cells can accept charge at -20C
- Similar performance capability observed with both 8 and 25 Ah cells
- Cell from all vendors showed similar capabilities



Li-Ion Battery Technology Assessment Cycle Life Studies

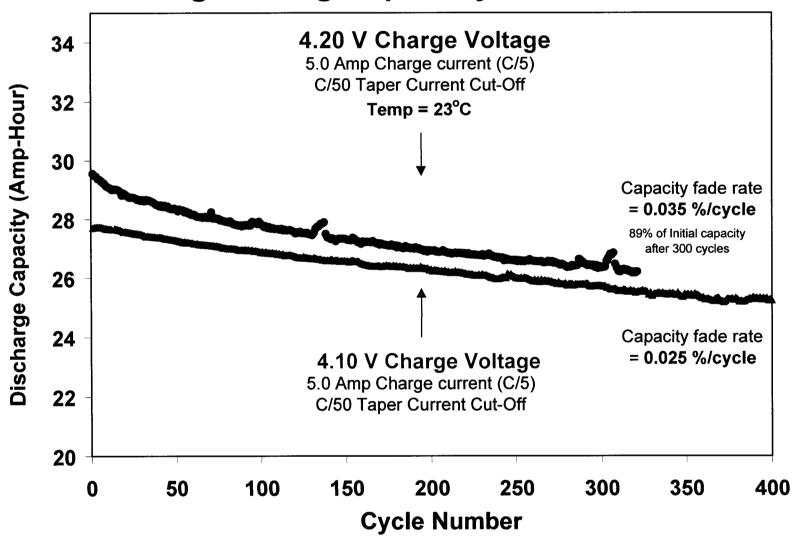






- Cells delivered > 1000 cycles at 100 dod and RT
- Cells completed more than 700, 100% dod cycles at-20C
- Observed similar performance capability in both 8 and 25Ah cells
- Cells from all vendors similar capabilities
- Cycling cells at low and high temperatures was found effect low temp performance

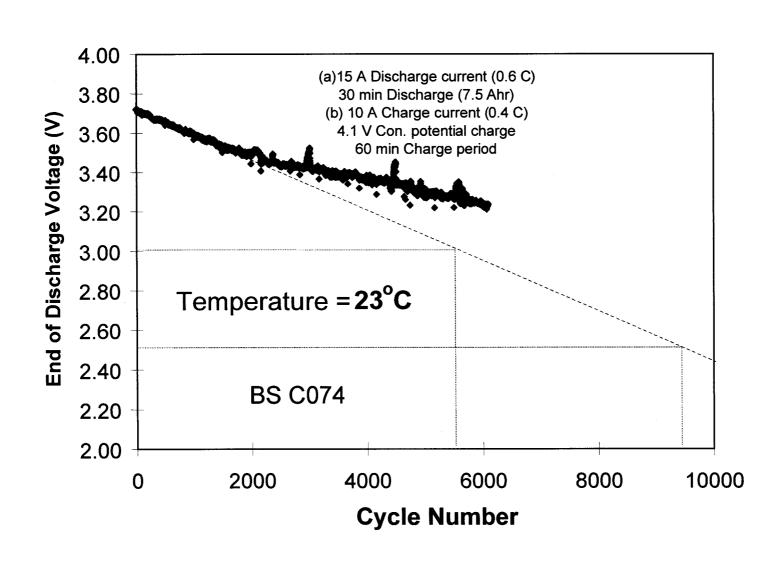
Lithium-Ion Cell Technology Assessment Effect of Charge Voltage Upon Cycle Life Characteristics







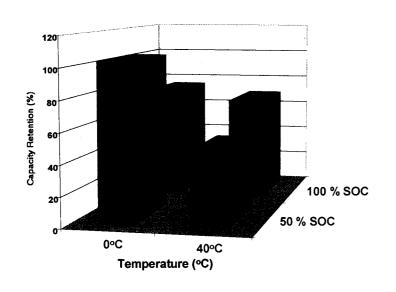
Lithium-Ion Cell Technology Assessment Leo Cycle Life Assessment Studies

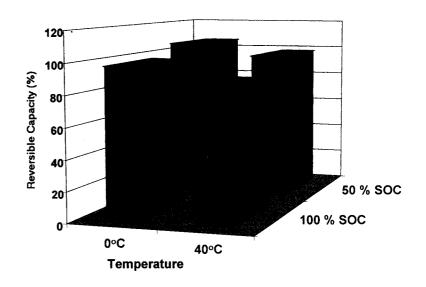






Li-Ion Battery Technology Assessment Effects of Storage Conditions





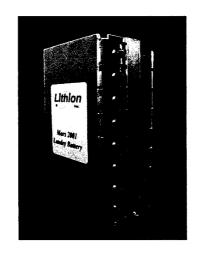
- Storage of cells at low temperatures was found to minimize self discharge
- Storage of cells at low temperatures was also found to minimize irreversible capacity losses on storage
- Storage of cells at lower stages of charge were found to minimize irreversible capacity losses on storage

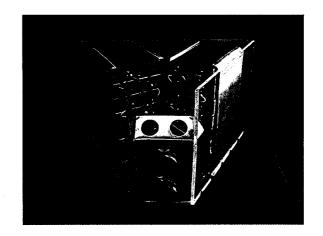


Mars 01 Lander Battery Development Status JPL









- Launch environmental withstand ability
- 10 month cruise storage capability
- Mars surface operational capability
 - Met EDL Performance Requirements
 - 50 A Pulse operations at 0 C
 - 60 simulated Sol operational capability at -20 to 40 C (testing continuing)
- Three year calendar life



Summary and Conclusions



- Li Ion cells meet the Mars mission requirements in
 - Cycle Life Performance
 - Room Temperature = Excellent (>90% @ 200 cycles)
 - Low Temperature (-20) = Sufficient
 - High Temperature (40°C) = Sufficient (>70% @ 200 cycles)
 - Discharge Rate Capability at Various Temperatures
 - Room Temperature = Excellent
 - Low Temperature (-20) = Sufficient (~ 24 Ah @ C/5 rate)
 - High Temperature (40°C) = Excellent
 - Storage Characteristics
 - Demonstrated minimal reversible capacity loss (2 months)
 - Identified temperature as most crucial storage parameter
 - Demonstrated efficacy of storage "on the buss"
 - Mission simulation (Variable Temperature Cycling)
 - Identified potential performance limiting conditions (worst case)
 - Implemented characterization test to quantify behavior